GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4938
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
TRANS- NATIONAL PIPELINES
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any measures to increase emphasis on trans-national pipelines and LNG imports;and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a)and(b): In order to meet existing shortfall and growing demand of natural gas in the country, Government is pursuing the import of natural gas through transnational pipelines and also in the form of LNG.
Following transnational pipeline projects are being actively pursued by the Government:
1) Iran-Pakistan-India Pipeline Project

2) Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan pipeline Project

3) Indo-Myanmar Pipeline Project

In respect of LNG,Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL) has signed contract with RasGas Qatar for import of 75 MMTPA LNG for a period of 25 years. RasGas Qatar is already supplying 5 MMTPA LNG and the supply of balance 2.5 MMTPA LNG would commence from mid 2009.
GAIL, IOC and BPCL have signed contracts with National Iranian Gas Export Company (NIGEC) on June 13, 2005 for import of 5 MMTPA LNG, which is scheduled to commence from 2009. Simultaneously, the parties also signed a side letter to the LNG SPA, as per which NIGEC had to obtain the approval of their parent company, National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), for the SPA to become effective. NIGEC has not obtained the approval of NIOC`s Board till now.
PLL is setting up 2.5 MMTPA LNG Terminal, with a provision for expansion to 5 MMTPA, at Kochi. PLL is at advanced stage of negotiations with an Australian supplier for import of 2.5 MMTPA LNG from LNG project at Gorgon, Australia for Kochi LNG Terminal.
GAIL is holding discussions with various potential suppliers of LNG for import of LNG on long-term basis from the year 2009 onwards for Dabhol LNG Terminal.